GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3211
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2003
PROCUREMENT OF SECOND HAND AIRCRAFT
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAGHUNATH JHA;RAMJI MANJHI;SURESH KODIKUNNIL;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the second hand/decommissioned MiG-21 fighter aircraft have been purchased by the Government from Russia and other CIS countries;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the names of the countries from where these were purchased;

(c) the reasons for procurement of second hand/decommissioned MiG-21 fighter aircraft;

(d) the cost of the second hand MiG-21 aircraft as well as the cost of new fighter plane;

(e) whether the MiG-21 aircraft that crashed in Srinagar recently was a second hand aircraft; and

(f) if so, the facts thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Secondhand/decommissioned MiG-21 fighter aircraft have not been purchased by the Government.However, secondhand MiG-21 trainers have been purchased to meet the urgent training requirements.

(b) 19 second hand MiG-21 trainers were procured from Kyrgyzstan and 8 from Ukraine.

(c) As new MiG-21 trainer aircraft are not available in the global market, being out of production, induction of secondhand MiG-21 trainer has been resorted to meet the training requirements of the Indian Air Force.

(d) The cost of secondhand MiG-21 trainer is approximately Rs. 2.5 crores and the cost of a new fighter aircraft in the air superiority class is approximately Rs. 190 crores.

(e) & (f): The aircraft which crashed in Srinagar recently was a second hand trainer aircraft, bought from Kyrgyzstan and was last overhauled in HAL in March 1999.